



Commencement 1976

Sweet Briar College President Harold B. Whiteman, Jr. conferred the bachelor of arts degree on 134 members of the Class of 1976 during the Sunday, May 16 commencement exercises.

Speaking at the graduation ceremonies, Dr. M. Elizabeth Tidball, professor of physiology at George Washington University, praised women's colleges for achieving a balance of men and women faculty within their institutions. She believes that this is responsible for the outstanding contributions of women's colleges to the education of women.

Dr. Tidball is known for her research which indicates that graduates of women's colleges are twice as likely to succeed than their counterparts at coed institutions. She told Sweet Briar's graduating class, "Only in a small handful of the nation's 2,500 institutions of higher learning can we find any sort of balance of women and men faculty and administration and these are the women's colleges.

"And it is from these colleges that women students are most likely to emerge and go on to make a variety of post-college contributions to the society in terms of careers in all fields.

"In this sense, the women's colleges can show us what can be done. They are examples of what can happen to women when they enjoy some of the same benefits of the educational environment that are regularly provided for men."

She also pointed out that female faculty members have a marked effect on the success rates of women students.

"The more women faculty, the more women students who subsequently achieve in their own endeavors."

The graduates also were addressed by two of their classmates, Sallie Hill Bernard of Earle, Ark., president of the Student Government Association, and Mary Margaret Ryan, of Toledo, Ohio, president of the senior class.

Three special honors were awarded at the ceremony.

Mary A. Woodford, an economics major from Chevy Chase, Md. was named Emilie Watts McVea Scholar of her class. This award is given each year to the top ranking student of each class.

Cynthia S. Seiler of Philadelphia was this year's winner of the Connie M. Guion Award. This award is given to a member of the graduating class

"for excellence as a human being and as a member of the college."

Robin Rodger, an economics major from Detroit, Mich., was chosen as the winner of the Penelope Czarra Award. This is the first year this honor has been awarded. It is a tribute to outstanding student achievement in academic and personal contributions to the college community.

This was Sweet Briar College's 67th commencement.

Student's James River study acclaimed

A Sweet Briar College student recently completed an independent research project comparing two accepted scientific research methods and was invited to give a paper on the subject at the Annual Eastern Colleges Science Conference in Providence, Rhode Island.

Miss Asimina Coroneos of Chevy Chase, Md., a 1976 graduate, spent several months last fall conducting the research under the sponsorship of Dr. Elizabeth Sprague, Doris McConnell Duberg of Professor of Ecology at Sweet Briar.

Her study grew out of work she was doing on the "James River Project," a three-year pioneer study of the effects of effluents being added to the James River by the newly constructed Virginia Fibre Corporation paper mill. The study is notable because it was able to document fully the state of the river prior to construction and thereby accurately access any changes.

Part of the research involves measuring levels of fecal coliform, bacteria which live in the intestines of man and other vertebrates, which are directly affected by pulp and paper mill effluents. Such tests have been considered a mainstay of water quality examinations for years because the tests are easily made and are considered to be accurate indicators of dangerous levels of pollution.

The most common method of conducting such tests is known as the membrane filter method and is the method being used for the fecal coliform counts made as part of the James River study.

Recent scientific articles have indicated, however, that this method may be less accurate than the more time consuming method known as multiple tube dilution.

As part of her research into the comparison of the two methods, Miss

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Commencement. See photo page two.



Miss Asimina Coroneos '76 and Richard S. Herd, research associate for the James River Project.

photo by Ty Dahl

Study praised by Virginia Fibre



Miss Jane Clark '79,
daughter of Jane Black
Clark '56.

photo by Ty Dahl

Attends Susan Ford at Azalea Festival

James River study, cont.

Coroneos made an extensive review of published data on the subject as well as conducting her own laboratory research.

She took water samples weekly for 11 weeks from eight "stations" along a 20 mile stretch of the James River at, above, and below the paper mill. Because of malfunctions in equipment and technical errors, only eight weeks of samples were included in the final data.

Miss Coroneos conducted all her experimental research under sterile conditions to avoid bacterial contamination from other sources. During the period she used 300 tubes and viles per week conducting the tests, which lasted between 24 and 96 hours depending on the method used.

During this period she worked under the direction of the research associate for the James River project, Richard S. Herd, in both the field and in the laboratory. Herd is responsible for gathering and evaluating research data on the project and was able to advise Miss Coroneos as the study progressed.

The results of her investigation showed that the multiple tube dilution method does, in fact, seem to be a more accurate indicator of the particular fecal coliforms for which they are testing in the presence of paper mill effluent. She points out that neither method tests specifically for the particular coliform in question, that is, *E. coli*, and results may be influenced by the presence of other types of bacteria.

She recommends in her paper that both methods be used in such research but that if only one determination is employed, it should be the multiple tube dilution method.

In addition to delivering a paper on her research at the Rhode Island conference, Miss Coroneos has won praise for her efforts in Virginia. The manager of technical services for Virginia Fibre, D. B. White, wrote to Miss Coroneos to express his "congratulations for the quality of your work and our gratitude for your having made results of your studies available to us. We have used your study as reference in discussions concerning the fecal coliform levels indicated from river testing," he said.

White also expressed an interest in publishing the Sweet Briar student's research as well as sponsoring her delivery of the paper at a technical

conference of the paper industry.

Miss Coroneos is a 1976 biology graduate and plans to enter the research field at the University of Pennsylvania next month.

Cinderella Sweet Briar

When Susan Ford, daughter of President and Mrs. Gerald Ford, reigned as Queen of the 23rd Annual International Azalea Festival in Norfolk, she was attended by a long-time friend, Janie Clark, a Sweet Briar freshman.

Miss Clark, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Clark, IV of Norfolk, was selected as Attendant to the Queen and invited to participate in the week-long celebration which ran from April 25-May 2.

Miss Clark became friends with the President's daughter some four years ago when they were classmates at the Holton Arms Academy outside Washington. She explained that Miss Ford had "taken her in" when she arrived at the academy and the two became close friends.

Since that time Miss Clark has witnessed first hand the transition of her friend's father from Congressman to Vice President and finally to President.

She has spent four weekends with the Fords at the White House.

"They seem to be the same family I knew in Alexandria," Miss Clark said.

She described the private living quarters of the President and his family as "beautiful. It's more modern and livable than the public areas of the White House and really more like a home than you'd think," Miss Clark explained.

She described the Fords as a very close family and said that she does not think that having her father become President has affected Miss Ford. "She has adapted really well," Miss Clark said.

The International Azalea Festival was conceived in 1954 as a tribute by the City of Norfolk to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) whose headquarters for the Supreme Allied Command, Atlantic, are located in that city.

Each year, a different nation is selected as the "most honored nation." This year the U.S. was chosen as the 1976 festival also served as a tribute to the Bicentennial. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld crowned Miss Ford at her personal request, in place of her father who could not attend.

Other NATO countries were represented by "princesses." They are chosen each year for the honor by senior government officials and ambassadors to the United States.

The seven-day celebration included a grand parade, the Norfolk Symphony Bicentennial Concert, the Azalea Festival Golf Tournament, visits by the Queen to local hospitals, special NATO ceremonies, a performance by the Norfolk Civic Ballet, the Queen's Command Performance and Festival Square Dance, a sailing regatta, Eastern National Rugby Championships, Virginia State Soccer Championships, and the Royal Coronation at Gardens-by-the-sea, followed by the Azalea Ball.

As the festival came at the close of her freshman year, Miss Clark must have felt rather like Cinderella as she returned to Sweet Briar for the last busy days of classes and final exams.



The 1976 commencement speaker, Dr. M. Elizabeth Tidball, professor of physiology at George Washington University (left), joins Sweet Briar President Harold B. Whiteman, Jr. in congratulating two 1976 graduates, Miss Pattie Hudson, Lynchburg, Va., and Miss Debbie Massie, Annandale, Va.
photo by Aubrey Wil

Students contribute to 75th Anniversary campaign

When the indoor swimming pool now under construction at Sweet Briar officially opens next fall, one of the diving boards will bear a plaque honoring the class of 1978.

The distinction stems from a student-organized drive to raise money for the pool and make an award to the class which demonstrated the highest percentage of giving.

Seventy-five percent of the members of the sophomore class made donations toward the pool. The junior class reached a 67 percent contributor level with 54 percent for the freshmen and 45 percent for the seniors.

The competition was organized by a special 75th Anniversary Student Support Committee under the direction of Kathy Jackson, a sophomore from Charlotte, N.C. and Mrs. George Woody, a junior from Madison Heights. The committee is under the direction of the larger Student Development Committee.

The Sweet Briar student support campaign is considered important by the college because of the Alumnae Association program aimed at reaching 75 percent alumnae participation in annual giving this year.

No college or university in the country has ever reached so high a level of giving. Sweet Briar officials consider the program exceedingly ambitious and believe that if they succeed in achieving it, it will set a national precedent in the area of college development.

They further hope that total student support in the other three classes can reach the 75 percent goal in order to provide added incentive to this year's Alumnae Fund drive.

"When the alumnae hear that there is strong student support on campus for the 75th anniversary, they are bound to be impressed and hopefully encouraged to follow our example," said Anne Stelle, a sophomore from Glenview, Ill., who is chairman-elect of the Student Support Committee which oversees such fund-raising drives.

"In addition to alumnae gifts, other philanthropic agencies can be influenced by participation levels from within a college," Miss Stelle said. Thus, alumnae and on-campus endorsements are an important factor in attracting other outside funds," she concluded.

Because the percentage of student

participation is considered a vital factor in the overall success of the anniversary year, the Student Development Committee is continuing to solicit contributions from students who have not participated to date. They are now encouraging donations for all of the 75th anniversary cam-

paign objectives including increased faculty salaries, the expansion of the Babcock Fine Arts Center, and curriculum development.

Sweet Briar is currently conducting a capital campaign drive to raise \$10 million by the end of its 75th anniversary celebration being held this year.



Shown at the recent meeting of the Friends of the Library are President Harold B. Whiteman, Jr., Mrs. Anne Gary Pannell Taylor, president emeritus of Sweet Briar, C. Waller Barrett, Sweet Briar parent from Charlottesville, Va., Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson Liscomb, chairman of The Friends, Henry James, Sweet Briar librarian, and Mrs. Lynn Crosby Gammill, chairman of the special Life Membership Committee.

photo by Ty Dahl

The Friends of the Library honor Life Members

As part of Sweet Briar's 75th Anniversary year of celebration, the Friends of the Sweet Briar College Library paid special tribute to the Life Members of the Friends at their annual meeting on April 15, 1976. A Life Member is an individual who has selected the largest gift membership in the Friends.

In recognition of the significant impact these individuals have had on the library's ability to purchase books and meet other needs beyond the annual operating budget, and engraved Life Member plaque now hangs in the main lobby of the college's Mary Helen Cochran Library.

Life Members on campus for the presentation of this plaque are pictured above and include **C. Waller Barrett**, Sweet Briar parent from Charlottesville, Va., and former member Board of Overseers; **Lynn Crosby Gammill**, alumna in the Class of 1958 and former council chairman; and **Anne Gary Pannell Taylor**, president emeritus of Sweet Briar.

Other Life Members include **Keene C. Brown**, former Sweet Briar Over-

seer from Amherst, Va.; **Dorothy Hagert Crosby**, Sweet Briar parent from New Orleans, La.; **Lois Craddock Perkins**, Sweet Briar parent from Wichita Falls, Tex.; **Elizabeth Perkins Prothro**, alumna in the Class of 1939 and former council chairman; **Mary Virginia Camp Smith**, alumna in the Class of 1936 from Raleigh, N.C.; and **Constance Lane Stanfield**, alumna in the Class of 1969 from Selma, Ala.

To encourage other Sweet Briar alumnae and friends to become Life Members, the council has asked Mrs. Gammill to chair a special Life Membership Committee with assistance from Mrs. Prothro and Mrs. Taylor. Mrs. Gammill has recently been elected secretary of the executive board of the college's Alumnae Association.

For further information on Life Membership and the work of the Friends, please write to: The Friends of the Library, P. O. Box G, Sweet Briar College, Sweet Briar, Virginia 24595.

Seventy-five percent of the Class of 1978 contribute

Special Life Membership Committee Formed

Campus Notes

Several faculty members will be doing research abroad this summer.

Dr. **Joan Marter**, assistant professor of art history, will travel to England, the Netherlands, and Germany to study and photograph architecture, sculpture, and painting in preparation for a colloquium in European civilization to be offered in the spring term, 1977.

The course will be entitled, "Art and Music of the Seventeenth Century in Northern Europe."

Dr. Marter will also be doing research on "New Realists and the Academic Tradition." She will study in New York and conduct interviews with contemporary artists.

Dr. **Aileen Laing**, assistant professor of art history, will spend much of her summer in Italy studying medieval and Renaissance works, and making slides of them for use in art history and European civilization courses next year. Dr. Laing is making her trip with the help of a Smith-Richardson grant.

Dr. **Ronald Horwege**, assistant professor of German, will visit Germany in July and August to participate in a seminar on German culture. This seminar is sponsored by the Fulbright Commission.

Dr. Horwege is one of 25 American German professors awarded a fellow-

ship for this program. The seminar will be held in Göttingen and Munich. He will also do some private traveling and research.

Dr. Horwege has been elected recently to a two-year term on the executive council of the Virginia Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German.

Mrs. **Eija U. Celli**, assistant professor of physical education, will spend June in Finland at the University of Lappeenranta. Mrs. Celli and a group of Sweet Briar dance students visited the university while on tour in Finland last summer.

Two Sweet Briar graduates, **Ella Hanson '75**, assistant in dance, and **Betsy Burdge '75**, will assist Mrs. Celli in Finland.

Allen Huszti, assistant professor of music, will also be preparing for the spring term European civilization colloquium. He will attend the workshop in Baroque Dance and Music at Stanford University, July 6-17.

Following the workshop, Mr. Huszti will attend the Oglebay Opera Workshop at Oglebay Park in West Virginia under the direction of Boris Goldovsky.

Dr. **Langley Wood**, coordinator of environmental studies, will explore the other side of the student-teacher relationship this summer. He will take two courses at the Mountain Lake Biological Station of the University

of Virginia. This is phase one of a National Science Foundation supported program to develop a freshwater ecology course at Sweet Briar.

Dr. **Mark Schuh**, assistant professor of mathematics, will be attending a workshop on "Mathematical Models—Deterministic and Stochastic" sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America. The session will be held at Salisbury State College in Maryland.

Dr. **John Shannon**, professor of music, will spend the summer at Sweet Briar and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, completing his book, **Seventeenth Century Organ Literature**, which is scheduled to be published in spring, 1977.

Miss **Lucile Umbreit**, professor of music, will attend the musical activities at the Hopkins Center of Dartmouth College in August. She will also audit some classes while at Dartmouth.

Dr. **Gregory Armstrong**, professor of religion, and Dr. **Maxine Garner**, Wallace E. Rollins Professor of Religion, have both been included in the first edition of **Who's Who in Religion**.

Dr. **Ernest P. Edwards**, professor of biology, will be teaching three one-week seminars in ornithology at Cornell University as part of their annual summer alumni university.

Bulletin of

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